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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
10/673,201	09/30/2003	Yasuhiko Oosawa	50195-385	9608	
75	90 04/07/2006		EXAMINER		
McDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY			ALEJANDRO, RAYMOND		
600 13th Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20005-3096			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			1745		
			DATE MAILED: 04/07/200	6	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

				ì.			
		Application No.	Applicant(s)				
		10/673,201	OOSAWA ET AL.				
	Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit				
		Raymond Alejandro	1745				
Period fo	The MAILING DATE of this communication app or Reply	ears on the cover sheet wi	h the correspondence address	-			
A SH WHIC Exter after If NC Failu Any	ORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY CHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.15 SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period were to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing and patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	ATE OF THIS COMMUNIC 36(a). In no event, however, may a re vill apply and will expire SIX (6) MON cause the application to become AB	CATION. Apply be timely filed ITHS from the mailing date of this communical ANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).	·			
Status		•					
1)⊠	Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>30 Secondary</u>	entember 2003					
	This action is FINAL . 2b)⊠ This action is non-final.						
3)	•						
	closed in accordance with the practice under E		•				
Dispositi	on of Claims						
	•						
	 Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 						
	Claim(s) is/are allowed.	With the state of	•				
	Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.						
7)	Claim(s) is/are objected to.		·				
8)[Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or	r election requirement.	•				
Applicati	on Papers						
	The specification is objected to by the Examine	r					
	The drawing(s) filed on <u>30 September 2003</u> is/a		objected to by the Examiner				
•	Applicant may not request that any objection to the		·				
	Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correct	ion is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121	1(d).			
11)	The oath or declaration is objected to by the Ex	aminer. Note the attached	Office Action or form PTO-152.	•			
Priority u	ınder 35 U.S.C. § 119						
12)🛛	Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign	priority under 35 U.S.C. &	119(a)-(d) or (f).				
_	☑ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:	, and a control of	(.) (.) (.) .				
	1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.						
	2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No						
	$3. \square$ Copies of the certified copies of the prior	ity documents have been	received in this National Stage				
	application from the International Bureau						
* S	see the attached detailed Office action for a list	of the certified copies not a	eceived.				
Attachment	: (s)						
	e of References Cited (PTO-892)		ummary (PTO-413)				
2) U Notice 3) Notice	e of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) nation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)		/Mail Date formal Patent Application (PTO-152)				
	r No(s)/Mail Date 4 IDS (See item 2).	6) Other:					

Art Unit: 1745

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35
 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statements (IDS) submitted on 09/30/03, 05/14/04, 02/23/05 and 09/07/05 were considered by the examiner.

Drawings

3. The drawings were received on 09/30/03. These drawings are acceptable.

Specification

4. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Objections

5. Claim 8 is objected to because of the following informalities: the capital letter in line 2 corresponding to the recitation "<u>A power source having</u>..." should be replaced with a non-capitalized letter. Appropriate correction is required.

Art Unit: 1745

Page 3

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

- 6. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:
 - The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
- 7. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
- 8. Claims 1 (lines 5-6) and 8 (line 7) recite the limitation "the bipolar electrodes". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. It is noted that claims 1 and 8 only recites "a bipolar electrode", that is, one bipolar electrode.
- 9. Claim 7 recites the limitation "the insulation films" in lines 2-3. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. It is noted that claim 4, from which claim 7 depends, only recite "a flexible insulation film".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

10. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

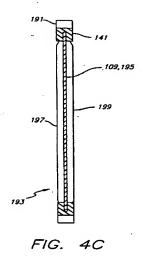
- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.
- 11. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rippel 5441824.

Art Unit: 1745

The present invention is geared toward a bipolar battery wherein the disclosed inventive concept comprises the specific collecting foil having an insulation layer thereon.

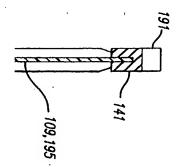
As to claim 1:

Rippel discloses a bipolar battery (TITLE). Particularly, <u>Figure 4C</u> below illustrates the biplate 109, 195 (the collecting foil) including positive active material 197 on one side and negative electrode material 199 on other side (COL 13, lines 5-20).



The bipolar electrodes are separated by separator 131 (COL 11, lines 25-45/ COL 13, lines 24-35/ See Figure 2). Separator 131 is made of rubber (COL 11, lines 40-45). It is noted that rubber is a polymeric material.

As shown in Figure 4C above and its enlarged portion below, biplate 109,195 has a sealing frame 141 in the form of a layer provided on its periphery (Col 12, lines 50-59/ Fig. 4C).



Art Unit: 1745

Concerning claim 2:

It is apparent from <u>Figure 4C</u> above that the combination of sealing frame 141 and protruding tab 191 provided on the periphery of the biplate 109,195 protrudes outward beyond the biplate and with a protruding length longer than the thickness of the elements 197, 199 and 109/195 (See FIGURE 4C).

With regards to claims 3 and 5-6:

Sealing frame 141 from molding material 139 is a layer adhered to the biplate (COL 12, lines 29-39 and lines 50-55/FIGURE 4C). Frame 141 is securely bonded (*adhered*) to the biplate (COL 12, lines 32-35). *Thus, it is adhesive*.

With respect to claim 4:

As to claim 4, the term "flexible" is a relative term or term of degree. Accordingly, all materials exhibit flexibility or stiffness irrespectively of its degree.

Regarding claim 7:

Protruding tab 191 represents the adhesive insulation tape further covering the insulation film (the sealing frame 141).

On the matter of claim 8:

Rippel teaches that his bipolar battery provides electric power for high-power applications such as an electric car (COL 1, lines 5-10).

Thus, the claims are anticipated.

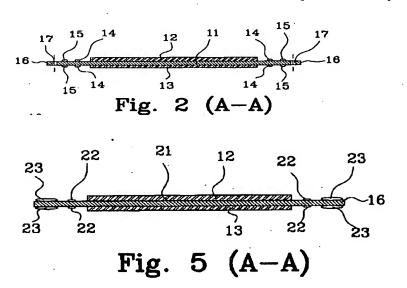
Art Unit: 1745

12. Claims 1-8 is (at least) rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Fredriksson et al 2003/0054244.

As to claim 1:

Fredriksson et al disclose a bipolar battery (TITLE) comprising biplate 11 or 21; a positive electrode 12; and a negative electrode 13 are attached at each side of the biplate (P. 0045, 0057).

Figures 2 and 5 below illustrate the biplate assembly:



Fredriksson et al provide electrolyte barriers 14 or 22 (P. 0049, 0057) made of a fluoropolymer material (P. 0059) on the periphery of the biplate 11 or 21 (FIGURES 2 & 5).

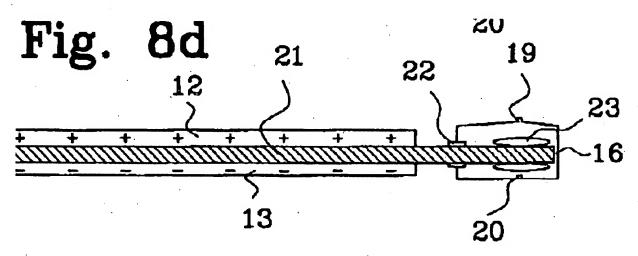
Fredriksson et al also dispose elastomers 15 or 23 (P. 0045, 0057) on the periphery of the biplate 11 or 21 FIGURES 2 & 5). Thus, electrolyte barriers 14, 22 or elastomers 15, 23, alone or in combination, represents the insulation layer disposed on the periphery of the biplate.

Disclosed is the use of separator 50, which is arranged between the positive electrode 12a of the first biplate assembly and the negative electrode 13b of the second biplate assembly (P. 0069).

Art Unit: 1745

Concerning claim 2:

Enlarged portion of Figure 8d depicts elements 22, 23 and 19 having a length longer than the combined thickness of positive electrode 12, negative electrode 13 and biplate 21 which stands for a single cell.



With regards to claims 3 and 5-6:

Disclosed is that the electrolyte barrier 14 or 22 is applied to the biplate as a liquid or solid material and then cured in place, which will bond the barrier to the biplate (P. 0049, 0058). Thus, it is bonded (adhered) to the biplate; and, therefore, it is adhesive.

With respect to claim 4:

As to claim 4, the term "flexible" is a relative term or term of degree. Accordingly, all materials exhibit flexibility or stiffness irrespectively of its degree.

As to claim 7:

Reference numerals 19 and 23, the elastomer (P. 0057) and the tongue (P. 0052), see also Figure 8A-8F, covers the end of the biplate and acts as the additional tape material.

As to claim 8:

Art Unit: 1745

Page 8

Fredriksson et al discloses that the battery is suitable for hybrid vehicle applications (P. 0077).

Thus, at least claim 1 is anticipated.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Raymond Alejandro whose telephone number is (571) 272-1282. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (8:00 am - 6:30 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick J. Ryan can be reached on (571) 272-1292. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Raymond Alejandro Primary Examiner

Art Unit 1745

RAYMOND ACEJANDRO
PRIMARY EXAMINER